PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Birds of Springfield and Vicinity.—By Robert O. Morris. The town of Springfield lies on the Connecticut river but a few miles north of the dividing line between Massachusetts and Connecticut. In the preparation of the work the author passes over well beaten ground. From this very place the Rev. Wm. B. O. Peabody, Dr. J. A. Allen, F. H. Keys and W. W. Colburn, have enriched our ornithological literature; while Messrs. Emmons, Clark, Waters, Hoffman, and Drs. Merriam, Wood, and Faxon, have also done more or less work within the territory covered by the present volume. It has all appearance of having been done in a most through manner. The style is easy, direct and pleasing; many very valuable facts are related in an unassuming manner, and the description of the surrounding country is particularly fine and easily comprehended. 254 species and sub-species are recorded, all of which, with the exception of less than a fifth part, have come under the writer's personal observation. To the above he adds 4 species of probable occurence but excluded from insufficient evidence; 5 introduced species, but one surviving—the ubiquitous and ever increasing European House Sparrow; and finally 2 extirpated species—the Heath Hen and Wild Turkey.

A work of this kind bespeaks long experience, and Mr. Morris is to be congratulated upon the fact that the elegance of his diction is further embellished by the work of the publisher.

[F. L. B.]

A Quantitative Study of Variation in the Smaller North-America Shrikes.—This quantative study of variation to determine the status of a sub-species of birds, by our President, R. M. Strong is a pioneer in the application of an exact criterion for the determination of specfes and sub-species. There is no little objection to this quantitative method of study from one quarter and another, for no very good reason we can see. Manifestly no other kind of study can bring us exact results. A quantitative study is possible only when a large amount of material is available from many different regions, and this is